

THE PRIVATE CHARACTER OF ARTISTS.—An "Old Subscriber" writes to blame us for noticing the public performances of a certain artist whose private character he undertakes to be far from blameless. Now we differ altogether from our friend in this matter. We do not conceive that the critic who speaks of the artistic productions of a singer or painter has any concern with his or her private reputation or behavior. The work before him is what he has to judge of, and that has nothing to do with the question of morality or immorality on the part of its author. A picture, or statue, or symphony may be beautiful, and a perpetual source of delight to the world, while the daily life of the man or woman who made it may be such as to cause sorrow and disgust to those acquainted therewith. But it would be foolish and wrong to pronounce such a statue or symphony bad, and advise the public never to see or hear it, for that reason. It is enough that the artist does well his work as an artist; about his doings as a man it will be time to speak when they become notoriously outrageous or are brought before the Courts. And then we shall not employ them to disparage his merits in the sphere of art, the one being entirely independent of the other.

FERD. ED. DOCTOR'S CONCERT AT TRIFLER HALL.—The friends of music will find in another column the programme of a grand vocal and instrumental concert, to be given by the newly arrived German Pianist, Ferd. Ed. Doctor. Doctor, as an accomplished artist assures us, for we have not heard him ourselves, is, for power and skill, a second Leopold de Meyer, and perhaps still more. The programme he offers contains an interesting and attractive variety. He will be assisted by Madame Doctor, who is likewise an excellent performer on the piano; the well-known Prima Donna of the Italian Opera House, Signora Trull Benedetti, and by an eminent violinist, Ferd. Griebel, Concert Master from Berlin, who has just arrived, and who had the honor to perform with Jenny Lind at a Court Concert of the King of Prussia. He is spoken of as a virtuoso of brilliant and tasteful execution.

PRESENTATION.—The Third Regiment Hussars paraded yesterday at 10 o'clock at Tompkins Park. After the parade was formed, Col. POSTLEY called the Lieut. Col. to the center of the line and presented him with a massive pair of Gold Epulettes—a gift from the officers of the Regiment—in the following words:

LIEUT. COL.—The officers of our Regiment, desiring to manifest the sentiments of esteem and attachment with which you are regarded by them, have selected these epulettes as a token of their affection. The epulettes are indeed few things in life so grateful as the expression of kindly sentiments entertained for us by our comrades. The assurance that I have not the approbation of the officers of the 3d Regiment in my efforts to discharge my duty, comes like one of those bright visions which flash upon the vision of a man, and which, like the sun and stars, are ever flowing stream, to make the heart a paradise. This splendid testimonial of the generosity of your comrades, and the confidence which they have placed in you, is a treasure, and one which I will treasure as long as I live. I will wear it in days yet to come. Take it, and believe that the heart of him who gives it to you beats in sympathy, and deeply enters into the justice of gratitude which must now tell you in your spirit.

To which the Lieut. Colonel replied:

COLONEL.—Words fail upon the lip when the heart is full of love. Language but inadequately conveys the feelings which are now in my mind. I am indeed very grateful for the expression of kindly sentiments entertained for us by our comrades. The assurance that I have not the approbation of the officers of the 3d Regiment in my efforts to discharge my duty, comes like one of those bright visions which flash upon the vision of a man, and which, like the sun and stars, are ever flowing stream, to make the heart a paradise. This splendid testimonial of the generosity of your comrades, and the confidence which they have placed in you, is a treasure, and one which I will treasure as long as I live. I will wear it in days yet to come. Take it, and believe that the heart of him who gives it to you beats in sympathy, and deeply enters into the justice of gratitude which must now tell you in your spirit.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—We understand that at a meeting of the Board of Officers of this Society on Saturday last, they resolved that as one expression of gratitude for the liberal donations made them at their quarterly meeting on the 15th inst., they would print and circulate, gratuitously, in New-York and vicinity, Fifty Thousand Copies of their new Tract entitled "Tract for the Holidays." The Tract will be ready for delivery in a few days at the office of the Society, 85 Nassau-st. We believe the Tract was written by Mr. Hoover, Editor of the N. Y. Organ.

THE FRANKLIN LITERARY ASSOCIATION have a public meeting this evening in the Welsh Baptist Church in Christian-st. near Delancy. Subject of discussion—"Has a Slave the right to secede from the Union?" Admission free. (See advertisement.)

EDUCATION.—An opportunity to study the art of science of Public Speaking is opened by Francis T. Russell, Professor of Education in several institutions. See his advertisement and references in another column, under "Instruction."

ROBBERY.—Yesterday morning John Madden and John Sunday were arrested charged with a robbery. Last night Andrew McKinney, the complainant, went to a lodging house, 132 Madison-st., and there left a key by one "Dutch Kate," and there left in with the two prisoners, and entrusted Madden with the key which contained no sovereigns. In the morning Madden denied that he had received the belt or the money, but after some persuasion he gave back half the belt and half the money. McKinney then applied to the police and the two men were arrested.

A MAN who refused to give his name was arrested in Perry-st. on suspicion of being engaged in some burglarious demonstration, and on searching him a variety of silver spoons and other valuables were found. Those who have recently suffered such losses should apply for them at the Ninth Ward police.

ARREST ON A CHARGE OF SEDUCTION.—Officer Maloney of the First Ward yesterday arrested Matthew Looney, an Irish shipping merchant, doing business at 19 Washington-st. on a charge of seduction preferred by Mary Goss, residing at No. 69 Murray-st. Complainant is a foreigner and arrived in this country about 4 months ago. She was recently introduced to the accused, who shortly after offered himself in marriage; his proposition was accepted and about 10 days since the parties appeared before a Catholic priest to be married, but no proper witnesses being present, the ceremony was deferred until the following morning. It did not, however, take place, and the crime above stated, as is alleged, was committed, and the accused now refuses to fulfill his promise of marriage. Justice Lathrop held him to bail to answer the charge.

ACCIDENTALLY SUFFOCATED.—Jane B. Fox, an infant eight months old, whose parents are domestic residing at 136 Thirteenth-st. was accidentally suffocated in bed on Sunday night. An inquest was held by the Coroner and a verdict of accidental suffocation rendered.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Catherine Laughlin, a child five years of age, whose parents reside at 57 Orange-st. died suddenly yesterday morning. Coroner Ger died an inquest on the body and a verdict of death by inflammation of the stomach from some cause unknown was rendered.

CAPTURE OF A SLAYER.—The brig Jesse, Barker, master, arrived this morning from Africa, having left Sierra Leone on the 9th of October. The only news of interest that she brings is of the capture of a Brazilian slave, off Cape Lopez, by an English steamer of war. She proved to be a slave, having some 250 negroes on board, who were sent, together with the prize, into Sierra Leone.

DEEP SNOW.—The Syracuse Star says that about eight miles south of that city the snow on Wednesday was very deep. In Oriskany and Tully it was full four or five feet deep in some places. It was drifted.

BROOKLYN ITEMS.

RAILS.—The members of Franklin Engine Co. No. 3 had a capital ball last night at Mantague Hall.

To-night the Emerald Ball takes place at the same room.

To-morrow night Mechanic Hose No. 2 will give their ball at the same place.

The funeral of Capt. Woodhull Hartman, (killed by the explosion on Saturday last) will take place at the First Baptist Church, Nassau-st. at 2 P. M. to-day.

DONATION TO THE ORPHAN ASYLUM.—At the donation drive on the 19th inst. beside a liberal supply of dry goods and groceries, \$594 34 in gold was received.

FIRE.—Yesterday, between 12 and 1 o'clock, a stable, four small frame dwellings and a meat shop, all at the corner of Hoyt and Butler-sts. were burned to the ground. Some other buildings on Hoyt-st. were considerably damaged, and several shops on Butler-st. were destroyed. The buildings were dragged about the middle of the day.

CORNER STONE.—The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new Dutch Reformed Church about to be built by the congregation of Rev. Dr. Bethune, at the corner of Pierpoint-st. and Monroe-place, took place yesterday afternoon, with the usual solemnities.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—As Mr. John Fanning was driving near the Long Island Railroad, about half past eight, his team took fright at the approach of the train, and sprang upon the track, bringing the wagon, in which Mr. Fanning was seated, in collision with the locomotive. The wagon was completely demolished, splitting even the board on which Mr. F. was sitting, and throwing him the distance about 37 feet, but by a miracle he escaped unhurt. His horse was dragged about the road about a distance of one mile, only being somewhat injured in the hind leg.

ON Sunday evening, toward 6 o'clock, a fire which succeeded in raising a small edition of a riot, which resulted in the breaking of the windows and other damages being done to the house of Mr. J. Kavanah, corner of Congress and Columbia sts.

FUNERAL HONORS.—The members of Washington Engine Co. No. 1, escorted the remains of Samuel P. Roberts, late a member of that company, to the Cemetery of the Evergreens, on Sunday afternoon. A large number of the members of other companies also attended, and the procession was very imposing.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—Yesterday a man named Williams, in the employ of Mr. H. Haskins, mason, was preparing to blast a rock in Carlton-avenue, near Park-avenue, a premature explosion took place, when some of the fragments struck him on the head and face, injuring him so severely that he is not likely to recover.

ROBERTS.—On Saturday night the house No. 270 Hudson-avenue was entered by some thieves, who stole therefrom a few articles of jewelry and some ladies' dresses.

WILLIAMSBURG ITEMS.

BARBERSHIP.—Among the amusements which have a place in Williamsburgh, we notice the cruel and wicked work of "pigeon shooting." Of course the fun was spiced with gambling. When will men cease to belie their title of "human," and abandon the shocking "sport" of tormenting unoffending animals for amusement?

FIREMAN'S BALL.—Washington Engine Company No. 1, of Williamsburgh, held their Annual Ball at Williamsburgh Garden, last evening.

NEW-JERSEY ITEMS.

Margaret Devine, who was to have been sentenced yesterday, for poisoning Mrs. McKnight, has had the sentence suspended by the Court, until an opinion can be had from the Supreme Court, as to the legality of the verdict rendered by the Jury.

A new M. E. Church at Pavia, Hudson County, is to be dedicated on Wednesday. The afternoon services will be conducted by Rev. Dr. J. Kennedy of Brooklyn, and those in the evening by Rev. J. B. Wakely of this city.

Prof. Mitchell will deliver a Lecture on Biblical Astronomy on Wednesday evening, in the Central Church, Newark.

REAL ESTATE IN NEWARK.—The sale of building lots on Mulberry, Commerce and Lawrence-sts. on Saturday last, by E. N. Miller, Auctioneer, under direction of John Whitehead, Master in Chancery, realized prices very satisfactory to the parties interested and to the property holders in the vicinity, and gave evidence of the prosperous condition of our manufacturers, in a spirited competition for the desirable locations. The lots at which they were sold evince a healthy advance in the price of Real Estate in our city, based on former foundations than the estimates of 1830. (Daily Adv.)

On Commerce-st. No. 12, \$23 per foot. 768 00
No. 13, \$23 per foot. 768 00
No. 14, \$23 per foot. 768 00
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No. 100, \$23 per foot. 768 00
Total.....\$17,539 01

The School Mistress and her Canine Friend.—One of the most touching instances of canine attachment, of which we ever heard, was related to us the other day, by a matron of the neighborhood where the finale of the melancholy event transpired.

"A young lady of one of the northern towns of this country, while engaged in teaching school, the past summer, a few miles from her home, was singled out towards the close of her engagement, without any apparent inducement, by the dog of one of her employers, as the peculiar object of his regard, which soon unaccountably increased to such a degree that he could scarcely be beaten from her side, or prevented from entering the school house, to which he daily repaired. At the termination of her school, which she left in failing health, when about to start for her parental residence, the dog gave signs of his determination to follow her, which was occasionally turned to the owner, and soon effected a purchase of the animal, which now joyously attended her home. Her first words, on entering the house, were—"Mother, I have come home to die, and have brought a friend here to watch over my grave." After making this announcement, she immediately took to her bed, and sunk rapidly in a typhoid, which in about a week, terminated in her death.

During her whole sickness, the faithful and evidently sorrow-stricken dog, never, but for a few moments at a time, left the sick room, constantly lying directly near the head of her bed, and seeming but too blest when permitted to lick her face and to rest his head on her breast. His dog of his tender caresses. As her final hour drew near, he became indifferent about food, and soon refused it altogether. After her death, which he seemed to comprehend, he continued to watch by the corpse, only at one time leaving it, and that was when the coffin-case, which having arrived with the coffin, was carried and placed by the side of the grave. He then, however, was nowhere near the house. He then, having somehow been made aware of what was going on, came out of the house, went to the case, and with his paws on the side, looked in and seemed to examine it attentively. He next jumped down into the grave, and appeared to inspect that also with equal care and attention. He then came out and hurried back to his post by the corpse, which he continued to watch till it was brought out for interment, when he closely followed the coffin, and looked sorrowfully on, as it was lowered to its final resting place, and the grave filled up. When his human fellow-mourners retired, however, he remained behind, and lying down at the head of the grave, could not be induced to leave the spot, refusing, for the first few days, all food, then, for

a week or two sparingly received it when brought to him, and at last going occasionally to the house for it, but only to dispart in haste what he set before him, and return to his sad and lonely vigil, which, night and day, he still continues to keep up over the remains of his beloved mistress.

The number of newspapers and periodicals now published in Russia is 154, of which 64 are published in St. Petersburg, 12 at Moscow, 50 at Odessa, 22 in the Province of the Baltic, and 50 in the rest of the Empire. Of these 254 publications, 108 are in the Russian language, 29 in the German, 8 in the French, 5 in the Polish, 3 in the Latin, and 1 in the Italian. Russia contains about 90,000,000 inhabitants, and consequently there are about three newspapers and periodicals for every million of its population. His country, we should say, of intellectual proclivity. In the British Empire, proper, with a population of 26,000,000, there are published about 500 newspapers and periodicals, which gives one for every 52,000 of the inhabitants. In the United States there are probably not less than 1,000 publications of kind for a population which may be assumed to be about 20,000,000, exclusive of all colored persons, who, whether bond or free, are not much addicted to reading of any kind. This gives a newspaper or periodical for every 12,500 inhabitants; and we suppose that on an average there is certainly one for that number of inhabitants, and in some sections of the country a great many more.

On Saturday last the paper mill near the Chain Bridge, D. C. was destroyed by fire. It was owned by Geo. Hill, Jr. & O. M. Lintin, and covered an area of 100,000 sq. ft. It was insured by the Federal Fire Insurance Co. of New York. The loss is estimated at \$200,000. The mill was used for the manufacture of paper, and was a very important establishment. The fire was caused by a defective chimney, and the mill was completely destroyed. The loss is a heavy one, and the mill will probably not be rebuilt.

On Friday last a negro convict named Charles Fay, in the Sing Sing Prison, stabbed a white convict named Patrick Smith, in a horrid manner, inflicting dangerous wounds with a knife. Fay is a bad man and was sent from Kings County for ten years for Mayhem. He has previously attempted to kill other convicts, and has several times attacked his keepers. Smith is a quiet, peaceable Irish boy from Troy, has conducted himself well in prison, and gave no occasion for the outrage.

A COMMODORE ON TRIAL.—We learn from the *Pennsylvania Pilot* that a Naval General Court Martial is ordered to convene at Washington on the 10th of December. It is understood to have reference to Commodore A. Catesby Jones, and the three Lieutenants to whom he alluded in a California letter on the subject of the capture of the *Albatross*. The court is to be held at the residence of the Commodore at Washington as one of the members of the Court.

SENTECE OF MR. CALDWELL.—Hon. Green W. Caldwell, convicted at Charlotte, N. C., last week of an assault on Mr. R. Bernier, during the last Congressional election, was sentenced to twenty days imprisonment in jail, but after a remission of two days he was released at the request of the Grand Jury. Mr. Caldwell is a member of the State Senate of North Carolina.

DARING ROBBERY.—Last evening, a little before 6 o'clock, some expert rogues extracted about \$1,000 from the window of Matthew Bolles, broker, corner of State-st. and Merchants-row, by thrusting his hand through a pane of glass. There were persons in the office at the time, and so rapid were the movements of the "snatchers" that he could not make good his escape before he could be "spotted." (Post Chronotype.)

At Rochester, Friday evening, Catherine Loudworth shot Mary Ann Hall, with a revolver. She intended to kill her, evidently, but the wound will not prove fatal, as the ball struck a rib and glanced off. Both were women of bad character. The would-be murderers has been arrested.

THE POOR—THEIR RELIEF.

Seventh Annual Report of the New-York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor—Some of the Facts and Figures in Regard to Labor and its Rights.

[Condensed for The Tribune.]
The annual meeting of the New-York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, was held in the Hall of the Public School Society, on the 11th inst. In the absence of the President, GEORGE GROSVOLD, Esq. one of the Vice-Presidents, presided.

The Treasurer presented his Annual Report, which was accepted, and ordered on file.

The Minutes of the Board of Managers, exhibiting their operations during the recess of the Supervisory Council, were read by the Corresponding Secretary, as their Annual Report to that body, and approved.

The Annual Report was read, accepted, and ordered to be printed under the direction of the Board of Managers.

On motion, the By-Laws were amended by inserting in the Fourth Article, sixth line, "Second" Monday; and in the Twelfth Article, fourth line, "Monday."

Voting by ballot having by resolution been dispensed with, the Association proceeded to the election of the following Officers, Managers, and Supervisory Council for the ensuing year, after which the meeting adjourned.

President.—JAMES BROWN; **Vice Presidents.**—George Grosvold, J. Snylen Rogers, M. J. James, George H. Grosvold, Allen James, Treasurer—Robert M. Hartley; **Recording Secretary.**—Joseph B. Collins.

The Annual Report states that during the last year, now closed, nothing of unusual interest has transpired. The Institution has steadily pursued its wonted course, increasing, it is believed, in efficiency and public confidence, as its principles have become better understood and applied.

One characteristic feature of the year's operations has been, to do more than hitherto for the permanent elevation of the indigent. The sympathy which depresses character, while it disposes to relieve suffering, the visitors understand, and sedulously endeavor to avoid. The disposition is not to do less pecuniarily, but more morally, by making aims not an end in itself, but the means of a higher and greater good, so that every outlay, by tending to improve the character and condition of the recipients, may at once diminish the number and prevent their increase. To save one family from falling into pauperism, or to rescue one from such a state and restore it to self-dependence, is obviously a greater private and public benefit, than would be the gratuitous support of such a family, to the end of life. And the Board have the satisfaction to report, as the statistics will show, that the number of such cases far exceed those of any preceding year.

But such results have not been attained without immense labor, nor are they under any circumstances unattended with difficulties. It is a great mistake to imagine that reforms are matters of course, or are always the reward of faithful effort. Pauperism is too stubborn and inveterate an evil to be remedied without the cooperation of those who suffer it. There are, it is true, many in the city, who, though industrious, frugal and prudent, have, by reason of sickness, bereavement, and other unavoidable calamities, been reduced to want and suffering. There is nothing more dread than the mortification and debasement of public relief, and nothing they more desire for themselves, and especially for their children, than to regain their former independence. But despite of their best exertions, they are over-taken by want and need a helping hand. To the sympathy, counsel, and aid of the Visiting Society, they are most welcome. Reasonably without humiliating exposure. Their sinking spirits are revived, their energies are redoubled, they are saved from sinking into the gulf of pauperism which they abhor, and from which recovery is doubtful and difficult. But there are others, chiefly of foreign birth and mendacious habits, who are so degraded in spirit and wedded to idleness, that the best efforts of the Association cannot reach them. Those who are so degraded in spirit and wedded to idleness, that the best efforts of the Association cannot reach them. Those who are so degraded in spirit and wedded to idleness, that the best efforts of the Association cannot reach them.

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Another prominent object in the labors of the year appears in the more careful regulation of the amount and duration of relief. In this particular no new principle has been introduced, for it has ever been a fundamental rule of the Association, that the relief should be given in the most judicious manner, and that the duration of the relief should be regulated by the necessities of the case. In former years, less attention was given to this rule than it merited; and injury to the beneficiaries, as also an unnecessary and burdensome increase of dependents and expenditure, were the consequences. But the evils of idleness, and the necessity of a more judicious regulation, becoming increasingly manifest, special efforts the past year have been made for its more general observance, and the results have been so beneficial, it is hoped such efforts will not relax until the operation of this important rule becomes universal.

Another marked feature in the operations of the year has been the effort to diminish the number of those who habitually depend on alms. It is well known to be the beneficent design of the Association, to elevate the poor to the condition of self-support, rather than to sustain them by charity. And there being great reason to fear that the relief of the same families, however deserving, from year to year, would militate against the principle of self-support, and the best interest of the class in question, alike required the use of such measures, as would tend to break up reliance on gratuitous aid, and urge all physically able, to earn their own subsistence. So important appeared the subject to the Board, that they caused a circular, and an alphabetical list, containing the names of more than one hundred such families, to be distributed among the Visitors, inviting their cooperation to effect such a reform, as the object in view required. They recommended that such families be visited in a friendly way, be reminded how long they had been aided, and that all able-bodied persons be urged against idleness, and upon this or any other ground, if it was believed, if they could be induced to improve the season when expenses are diminished and labor most abundant, so as to save a small sum each week for deposit in the Savings Bank, may then be able to subsist on their own earnings, and a sense of self-respect, and praiseworthy independence, be the result. The circular was distributed, and the full effect of this movement, but enough has been developed to show that it was reasonable and proper, and will be attended with excellent results.

The Board in this connection would remark, that those who have long received the aid and kind attentions of the Association, without giving any evidence of improvement, thereby show their connection with a class, which is likely to be elevated by their means, and some other mode of action with respect to them should be adopted. The nature of that action, the circumstances of each will indicate. It does not follow that all such persons should be denied relief; this, the design of the Association, and the dictates of humanity alike forbid.

As a consequence of these various labors, there has been a striking diminution in the number of the dependent poor, as compared with the previous year. During the year ending Nov. 1, 1849, 6,672 families were relieved, containing 29,841 persons. In the course of the year just closed, but 5,762 families were relieved, containing 23,762 persons, thus exhibiting a decrease of 910 families, numbering 3,811 persons. The cause of this great disparity in the relief of two successive years, may in part be attributed to the prevalence of the cholera in 1849; but as will appear, this does not account for all the difference. There was, moreover, an operation to increase the relative number of the poor, which was perhaps a reasonable expectation that they would increase above the ratio of the population. Many of the rich and prosperous are removing from the city, while the poor are rapidly pressing in, especially by foreign immigration. In the three years and six months preceding Sept. 1, 1850, the almost incredible number of 1,111,000 immigrants had entered the city, exclusive of the multitudes of the destitute who arrived here by the ports of other States and the British Provinces. It is not known what per cent. of the above continue here, but it is certain that most of the prodigious, energetic class go into the interior, while the idle and thriftless chiefly remain. And though a special department has been formed for the purpose of relieving the poor, as much as possible, this provision and how themselves on private charity, they greatly increase the aggregate of the needy, and become an oppressive burden to this Association. Notwithstanding, however, the immense influx of foreign immigrants, and the peculiar exposure of the city to pauperism, from these causes, it does not appear that the number of the poor is increasing above the ratio of the increase of the inhabitants, but that they are actually falling below it. And though some have expressed their belief that the tendencies of this Institution, however wisely conducted, were to augment the dependent class, the contrary appears to be the fact. To show, therefore, the effect of the measures which have been adopted, as mischievous, all organized charity, and to get, at the same time, the influence of the Association, in this respect, in a true light, the following statistics of the relief granted by it since its formation, is not only a matter of interest, but facts and figures, which furnish a basis for all just conclusions on such subjects.

Year. Families relieved. Persons relieved.
1840.....2,251 23,012
1841.....2,570 26,012
1842.....2,570 26,012
1843.....2,570 26,012
1844.....2,570 26,012
1845.....2,570 26,012
1846.....2,570 26,012
1847.....2,570 26,012
1848.....2,570 26,012
1849.....2,570 26,012
1850.....2,570 26,012
Total.....17,539 175,390

With such results, the Association has been content to adhere to the year to the few well understood and plainly defined objects for which it was originally organized, rejecting all other and extraneous objects, which might tend to endanger its usefulness and stability. It might, as it has often been urged to do, have entered upon a more diversified field of labor, by undertaking to diffuse a larger amount of moral influence, to adopt plans for the employment of the poor, and assume other responsibilities, outside these now contemplated. But, admonished by the failure of so many similar attempts in this and other cities, the necessity of great caution has been felt, and the determination avowed at the establishment of the Institution has ever been respected, to wit: that the cooperation of the public should be asked to no plan, the practicality of which was not reasonably certain, and which, if commenced, would not probably be attended by the desired results.

By such a course experience has justified the wisdom of the course pursued, and induced a growing distrust of the clamor for the rights of labor, and pledges to supply it, as of doubtful utility. The Association professes not to meddle with the metaphysics of political economy, nor would the limit of the design of this Report admit the discussion of a subject of deep interest in itself, and to many, because of the connection observed to exist between physical condition and moral elevation, the Board deem it in place to submit a few considerations by which they have been governed, and which may tend to correct some of the popular mistakes on the subject.

It is evident that the resources of our city, however judiciously developed, can give employment only to a limited number. This fact discloses the origin of the difficulty with respect to labor. It consists simply in the concentration of a larger number in a locality than such locality can employ. In other words, it is an excess of laborers beyond the demand, which inevitably diminishes the rewards of industry and leaves many unemployed. Large cities, from the attractions which they present to adventurers, are constantly exposed to this evil, and their own resources cannot, in the nature of things, provide an adequate remedy. Hence the uniform failure of all the oft-repeated attempts of the philanthropist to furnish labor for the redundant population of such places. It is demonstrable that beyond a certain limit, which limit is defined by what may be termed the law of reciprocity, there can be no demand for labor, and the surplus is supplied to its utmost capacity. It follows that the surplus laborers, if they remain for the time being are doomed to idleness; and if without means to suffer the miseries of want, unless relieved by the hand of charity. Evidently no association of citizens is competent to change this state of things, by permanent employment beyond the actual demand. For such a result presupposes a sudden increase of capital, enterprise, commerce, manufactures, and, indeed, of all the elements essential to a state of unexampled prosperity, to an extent which shall put in requisition the labor of all the unemployed. All this, too, must be done and permanently sustained by artificial means, in direct opposition to those inflexible principles and natural processes by which such results can alone be secured.

Nor does the difficulty end here. Admitting, for the sake of the argument, that the desired object was for once obtained, and the thousands of the unemployed men, women and children in the city were provided with work, the knowledge that this fact would attract other thousands, and finally that the demand would be increased, and the supply would be exhausted, and so onward ad infinitum, always leaving the demand unsatisfied, and the community in as necessitous a state as it was before any thing was attempted.

The great number of the unemployed, moreover, aggravates the difficulty of providing relief. If there were but a few scores or a few hundreds in this destitute condition, their case might possibly be reached by the special exertions of the benevolent. But when they amount to thousands, of diverse occupations, as is generally the case in this city, to supply them with employment becomes a matter altogether too vast and complex to be undertaken by any association, however ample its resources.

It is urged that temporary and not permanent employment